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September 29, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/050,907

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: **Apparatus And Methods For Separating Liquids From Solids**

Inventor: Willie Stroup

Our Ref: 02514.0007.NPUS01

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Reply and Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No.08-3038 referencing docket number 02514.0007.NPUS01. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No.08-3038 referencing the above docket number. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bell (Reg. No. 39,604)

Michael J. Stimson (Reg. No. 45,429)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP 1700

In re application of:

STROUP *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/050,907

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: Apparatus and Methods for Separating
Liquids From Solids

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: Menon

Atty. Docket: 02514.0007.NPUS01

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 28, 2003, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 8), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038.